

The Wobbly Oscillator



Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

October 2024 Volume 54 Number 10



From The Prez Toby, WT8D

Mentoring Sessions

We've talked about starting educational sessions for new hams that would also be of interest to seasoned veterans. We will explore various subjects we determine appropriate.

We have had one suggestion that we could possibly have the sessions before our regular monthly meetings. Not a bad idea. We can consider this at a meeting, on the nets, or by collecting opinions sent to me.

Another idea was station setup. We could include power requirements, antenna selection, component linking, and grounding.

We are very anxious to get this activity going, so any thoughts you have would be welcomed and appreciated.

Cleveland Hamfest

Once again we were blessed with near perfect weather for the big event, allowing attendees to enjoyably peruse the outdoor flea market.

One of the great attractions was the ARES communications trailer. Hats off to Chuck, K8CMV, for doing the lion's share of the construction. The comments we heard were extremely complimentary about the vast array of the radio equipment. The station on wheels reminded us of a beehive with onlookers swarming to get inside and check things out. Besides Chuck, CARS member Al, KF8BCC, hosted observers explaining the workings and fielding questions.

The CARS two-table display was busy all day with festgoers buying equipment (after the typical ham haggling) and inquiring about our great club. Thanks much to Mark, WJ8WM; John, NU8Y; Robert, K8RGI; Metro, W8MET, and Bob, KC8MRC, for holding down the fort during the day.

Special thanks to Lou, N8PZK, for donating a classic Zenith Transoceanic portable radio that sold quickly with the proceeds going into the CARS scholarship fund.



John, NU8Y; Bob, KC8MRC; Robert, K8RGI, and Mrak, WJ8WM, spent time staffing the CARS tables, enthusiastically representing the club and bargaining with prospective buyers.



Election of Officers and Board Members

We jumped the gun a bit by nominating officers and Board members at the September meeting with the results reported in the meeting minutes down the page. That gives us another opportunity to receive additional nominations in October for the November election. If you would like to nominate anyone else for an officer or odd-year Board member, or self-nominate yourself, feel free to do so at the next meeting.

September VE Session

Once again, Metro, W8MET, adeptly led his outstanding VE team consisting of Gary, NI8Z; George, K8KR; Roger, N8TCP, and Linda, N8LRS, to another successful VE Session on Sunday September 8th, 2024, at the Old Elmwood Recreation Center in Independence.

Randy Goudy, KF8CFC, came up from Jeromesville and became a licensed amateur passing his Technician exam. He subsequently passed his General Exam. Congratulations to Randy and welcome to the Amateur Radio Service. Well done Randy.

The next VE testing session will be held Sunday, November 10th, at 9:15 AM at the Old Elmwood Recreation Center, 6200 Pete Wisniesky Parkway, Independence 44131. Directions and a map are on the CARS website homepage. For information or an appointment please contact Metro, W8MET, at 216-520-1320 or metro351@sbcglobal.net

As always, walk-ins are welcome.

September Meeting Minutes

LOCATION - The meeting was held on September 10th at the Busch Funeral Home on Ridge Road in Parma, Ohio.

CALLED TO ORDER - President Toby Kolman, WT8O, called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Those present pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

INTRODUCTIONS - Those present introduced themselves. The meeting had 23 attendees.

MEETING MINUTES - The August minutes, as published in the September issue of the *Wobbly Oscillator* (WO), were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Matt Perlman, KE8OZU, provided an update on club finances. No concerns were reported with the financials.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Toby Kolman, WT8O, reported the following:

- Ron, K8RJH, is recovering well.
- Help with pictures for the WO.
- Mentoring sessions (suggestion - Before meetings)
 - Send topics to Toby.
- Badge choices - Let Toby know what you would like.
- WO Contributions - Toby is retiring as editor. Thank you for your submissions. Send Toby any items you have for sale or are looking for.
- Roster accuracy and availability
- Parking at Busch



Pre-meeting camaraderie and refreshments.

VP REPORT - On behalf of Ron, K8RJH, Toby, WT8O, reminded folks to pay their ARRL dues through the club.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - Secretary Matt Neely, NU8H. No updates.

PUBLIC SERVICE - Eddie, KD8FTS, shared that all CARS members are invited to the local ARES meetings. The meetings are held at the Helwig Whistle Stop on the third Tuesday of the month. Visit <https://n8esg.org/> for details and to volunteer. Chuck, K8CVM, reported the following:

- The Pan Ohio Hope Ride had good representation from CARS members. Thank you for the support!
- The following events need volunteers:
 - Coast to the Oast on September 14th.
 - Cleveland Hamfest (<https://www.hac.org/>) on September 22nd.

VE UPDATE - Metro, W8MET, shared that the next session is November 10th at 9:15 AM at the Old Elmwood Recreation Center, 6200 Pete Wisniesky, Independence 44131. If anyone is interested in being a Volunteer Examiner, let Metro know.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE - Joe, KD8BAL, reported that:

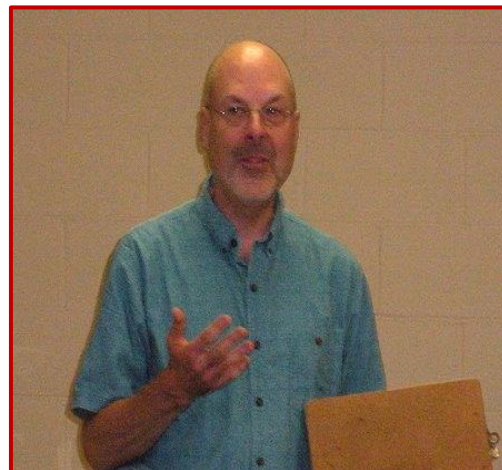
- At today's meeting, Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS, will present "Amateur Radio Communication in a Big Rig."

OLD BUSINESS - Toby, WT8O, led a discussion on the following:

- CARS 10 Meter net- We'll try to restart interest in this. Reminder: the Woodchucks 10 Meter net is Thursday at 8:00 PM on 28.435 Mhz.
- Positions needing to be filled - Holiday Party/Picnic Committee Chairman. We have a potential volunteer, but we still need more help.

NEW BUSINESS - Toby, WT8O, led a discussion on the following:

- Officer and board elections
 - Motion to nominate the current list of officers
 - The following members were nominated for the three board positions that will be up for election – Eddie, KD8FTS; Mark, KC8ESG, and Al, KF8BCC)
- Donated items for sale:
 - IC-7300 - Sold
 - Yeasu FP1038 linear power supply
 - QYT KT8900D UHF/VHF mobile
 - Heathkit 6 Meter transceiver
- Cleveland Hamfest - Sunday 22nd of September. It starts at 8:00 AM and runs till noon. We'll have a table and need volunteers to staff it. For more information - <https://www.hac.org/>.
- Discussed potential locations for the Holiday Party.
- David, AC8TN, shared that a new Morse Code class starts October 3rd at the Seven Hills Community room. A sign-up sheet was passed around. Contact David, AC8TN, if you are interested.



David, AC8TN, signed up those interested in the CW class.

REFRESHMENT - Thank you to Al, KF8BCC; Matt, NU8H; John, NU8Y.

NEXT MEETING - The Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society's next meeting will be on October 8th at the Busch Funeral Home on Ridge Road in Parma, Ohio.

ADJOURNMENT - Toby, WT8O, adjourned the meeting.

50/50 Drawing - Bob, K8RGI, won the 50/50 drawing.

Submitted by Matt Neely, NU8H, CARS Secretary.



Eddie, KD8FTS, kept the group at left captivated with his enlightening talk on the enjoyment of amateur radio while driving his big rig around the country. Especially interesting was how he figured out how to use his radio to make contact with his customer's dock workers minimizing his unloading time.

Ohio State Parks On The Air 2024

Bob, K8RGJ

The Ohio State Parks on the Air (OSPOTA) contest was held on Saturday, September 7th this year. It is always held on the first Saturday following the Labor Day holiday.

The OSPOTA contest was conceived with three main goals in mind:

1. To promote public awareness of amateur radio and Ohio's beautiful state parks system.
2. To contribute to the recognition that Ohio has a very diverse and wonderful ecology.
3. To promote camaraderie within the ranks of Ohio's amateur radio operators.

It is a lot of fun to get out in a natural setting with your radio and see how well you can do at working operators in Ohio's State Parks. The contest hours are from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Complete information can be found at <https://ospota.org>.



The sophisticated operating station the guys set up near the shore of South Bass Island.



Back-to-back and side-by-side, the Robbins twins Richard, WA8RR, and Robert, K8RGJ, define the term "Class act."

This year my brother Richard, WA8RR, and I set up at South Bass Island State Park. We started Friday afternoon and worked till dark to get the canopy, and two antennas laid out. Saturday we were up at 7:00 AM to finish the antenna installations and moved our equipment into the canopy. We were set up and on the air at 10:00 AM.

The weather was extremely windy, but we did not have any rain. We were making a lot of contacts until mid-afternoon when the bands seemed to go dead. It was a lot of fun and we are already making plans for next year.

No One Wanted It

John, N08Y

In 1980 we bought a beautiful, completely restored, upright player piano. The piano was originally manufactured in 1912 and was of impeccable quality and workmanship. The player mechanism was a mechanical marvel with 88 bellows that ultimately controlled the genuine ivory keys. The finish on the woods used through rivaled any furniture I have ever seen. There were no plastic parts anywhere.

The player portion of this piano was powered by foot pedals that operated a bellows creating a vacuum, which ultimately turned the rolls and made everything move.

It is amazing to me how the craftsmen over a hundred years ago could have designed and built such a complicated device without the aid of computers and modern machines. They were truly very clever and really smart.

Anyhow... a couple of years ago we decided we were going to get rid of the player piano and we bought a new modern electric piano. I thought for sure someone would love to have our old beauty for their home. I was wrong.

I tried to sell it. I tried to trade it in. I tried to give it away for free. No one wanted it. I couldn't even give away the player rolls.

Sorry to say, but it had to be partially dismantled in our house to make it light enough to be easily moved outside. The beginning weight was over 800 lbs.

Once outside, it was cut into pieces and eventually burned in our backyard fire pot. I feel guilty to this day for what happened to our piano.

When I go to the hamfests and see folks trying to sell old tube radios from an era long gone, I can't help thinking about our old piano and wondering if the same fate awaits the old radios too.



Next CARS Meeting

Tuesday, Oct. 8 - 7:30 PM

Busch Community Room

7501 Ridge Rd. - Parma

Axel Fisser, K8AXX

Will present a program on:

**Solar Panels and Batteries
For Energy Storage**

See Website for Details - www.2cars.org



The sequence of pictures depicts the plight of the piano from being a beautiful piece of antique furniture in John's home to ashes in his fire pit. Hopefully, he didn't waste the fire by not cooking any weenies or marshmallows.

CARS Repeaters



146.820 (-) PL Tone 110.9

Analog Repeater

Main Site – Brecksville

Receive Only Site – Brunswick

Receive Only Site – Shaker Hts.

AllStar Node 47067

EchoLink Node 343470 (K8ZFR-R)

WIRES X Node 91242 Room 01242

443.825 (+) PL Tone 131.8

Digital Yaesu Fusion

Linked to 146.820 Repeater

Brecksville

444.75 (+) PL Tone 131.8

Analog Repeater

Not Linked to Other Repeaters

Shaker Hts.

**WELCOME NEW
MEMBERS**

**BILL SHEEHAN
K2WJS**

**RANDY GOUDY
KF8CFC**

**BRAD DAVIS
N8WLI**

POTA Activity

David, AC8TN

Enjoying the beautiful weather at Cuyahoga Valley National Park Ledges this mid-September, my wife and I were surprised to see a Parks on the Air (POTA) station in operation near the Ledges Shelter in Peninsula, OH. Operator was Doug, KM4GC, from Virginia. He was running an Icom IC-705 at 10 watts on 20 Meters into an MJF 2289 antenna. It was a pleasure talking to Doug as he shared fascinating stories of some of his activations during his travels, how well his portable antenna was working, and unfolding his 100 watt solar panel out of its very small, zippered case (11.5" X 8"). Running on batteries with the Nicesolar ETFE Fully Laminated IP67 rated solar panel made for a really small and robust energy source. Most of us have probably heard and worked POTA stations. Awards are available for both Activators and Hunters at:

<https://docs.pota.app/docs/awards.html>

Activators

Bronze Award: work from 10 different reference areas.
Silver Award: work from 20 different reference areas.
Gold Award: work from 30 different reference areas.
Platinum Award: work from 40 different reference areas.
Diamond Award: work from 50 different reference areas.
Sapphire Award: work from 75 different reference areas.

Hunters

Bronze Award: work 10 different reference areas.
Silver Award: work 20 different reference areas.
Gold Award: work 30 different reference areas.
Platinum Award: work 40 different reference areas.
Diamond Award: work 50 different reference areas.
Sapphire Award: work 75 different reference areas.

Thank you Doug for spending time showing us your station and telling us about your adventures.



Doug, KM4GC, and his portable station he used for the Parks on the Air event at the Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

October Net Sked

Oct	2	KD8ACO
Oct	9	AC8NW
Oct	16	AC8TN
Oct	23	WT8O
Oct	30	KD8ACO

**Nets are run every Wednesday at
9:00 PM on:**

146.820 (PL 110.9)

**443.825(+) PL Tone 131.8
Digital Yaesu Fusion / C4FM
Linked to the 146.82 Repeater**

EchoLink Node 343470 (K8ZFR-R)

Allstar Node 47067

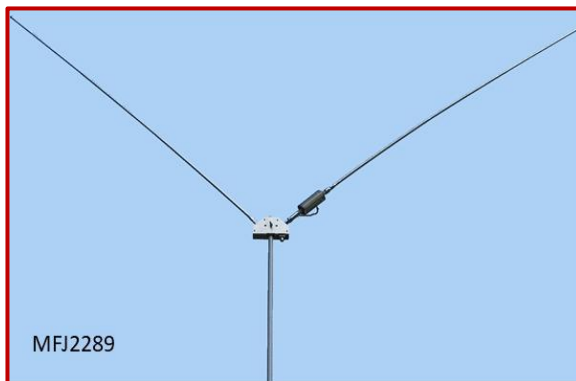
WIRES X Node 91242-Room 01242



Doug, KM4GC, demonstrates the portability of his Nicesolar foldable 100 watt solar panel he used to power his station.



Doug's 10 watt ICOM IC-705 radio.



October Birthdays

Perry Trunick-KB8AYQ	10-2
Toby Kolman-WT80	10-4
Bob Wirth Jr.-W8BUC	10-8
Steve Bopple-K3EAD	10-12
Mark Scoville-AD8KE	10-16
Darren Turk-K8DMT	10-20
Linda Burlingham-W8LBB	10-23
Mike Hren-KF8AYN	10-23
Jeremy Graber-KB8VHL	10-24
Dave Autry-WD8IOU	10-26

September Tour Coast of Maine and Areas of New England Andy KD8SCV

Celebrating 30 years of marriage calls for a special adventure. For my wife Judy and I, celebrating our 30th anniversary meant a trip to the Maine coast and a few other selected areas in New England, including one city we last visited 20 years ago.

Southwest Harbor, ME

To begin, we selected Southwest Harbor, Maine, on Mt. Desert Island and home to Acadia National Park for a five-night stay. The inn we chose was located right along Southwest Harbor Bay giving us easy access to Acadia NP as well as Bar Harbor and other locales on the island. Not only we enjoy great scenery, Mother Nature blessed us with abundant sunshine and mild temperatures.

Windsor, VT

After departing Maine, we headed for Windsor, Vermont, to visit the American Precision Museum. Located in the former Robbins & Lawrence Armory, the museum showcases the birth of the machine tool industry in the United States and the science of precision which is fundamental to mass production of any object. (Here's some trivia for you shooting enthusiasts, Horace Smith and Daniel B. Wesson, completed apprenticeships at the armory in the 1840s before founding the firm that bears their names, Smith & Wesson.)

Watkins Glen State Park, Watkins Glen, NY

Our last two destinations were Watkins Glen State Park and the Corning Museum of Glass, both in New York. We enjoyed a beautiful hike through the park's natural gorge which features 19 separate water falls. It reminds one of Ohio's own Hocking Hills State Park.

Corning Museum of Glass (CMOG), Corning, NY

It had been 20 years since we last visited CMOG and it was as though we were visiting it for the first time. This is an extraordinary place, showcasing commercial uses of glass in our lives as well as a vast collection of antique and artisan glass, some dating back more than 3,500 years!

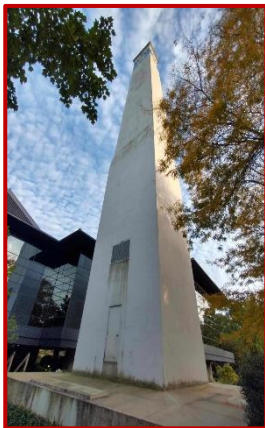
Although we were happy to return home after 11 days, we now have more memories to cherish.



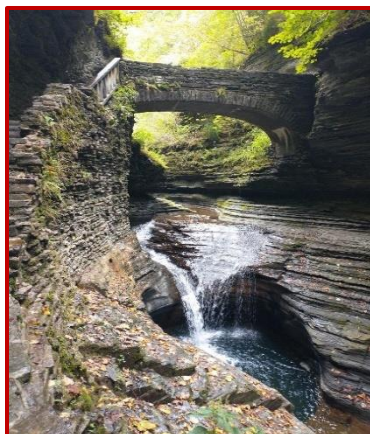
View along the Great Head Trail, Acadia National Park looking west, Maine. (L)

Home of the American Precision Museum, Windsor, Vermont. Originally, the Robbins & Lawrence Armory. (R)





"Little Joe" Thermometer Glass Drop Tower, 185 feet high, Corning Inc., Corning, New York. (Note: tower no longer used)



Cascade Falls, one of 19 waterfalls, in Watkins Glen State Park, Watkins Glen, New York.



"Little Joe" sculpture at the base of the tower. ("Little Joe" is a composite of 19th century glassblowers), Corning, New York.



Examples of glass blanks used to form fiber optic cables, CMOG, Corning, New York.



Preserved Bridgeport milling machine, American Precision Museum, Windsor, Vermont.



The bay in Southwest Harbor, Maine.

Honorary Members

Any person who by nature of outstanding or meritorious contribution to the furtherance of amateur radio and the ideals of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

**Robert Check, W8GC
Elected 2/10/15**

**Thomas Wayne, WB8N
Elected 1/10/17**

**Dwaine Modock, K8ME/SK
Elected 5/9/17**

**Toby Kolman, WT8O
Elected 10/10/17**

**Jerry Smith, NW9H
Elected 5/8/18**

**Ron Borkey, K8VJG/SK
Elected 5/14/19**

**Ed Stevens, WB8ROK/SK
Elected 8/10/21**

**Vince Bak, N8OVW/SK
Elected 11/14/23**

Jim Gabriel, WA8DXB/SK, Donation

We still have some of the equipment donated by Jerry Gabriel, WA8DXA, Jim's brother, available for purchase after some was sold after the original announcement in the WO and at the Cleveland Hamfest.

Those items are:

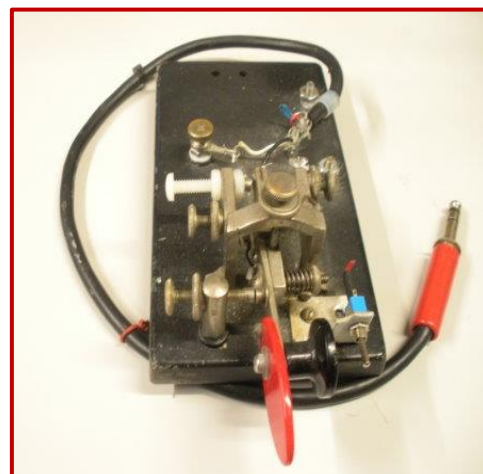
Palstar BT1500A antenna tuner, asking \$500.00.

Heathkit 6 Meter transceiver, asking \$40.00.

CW paddle, \$20.00.

If interested, contact Toby, WT8O, at 440-525-6109 or wt8o@att.net with offers.

The proceeds from the sale of this equipment will go into the CARS scholarship fund.



The *Wobbly Oscillator* is a publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society. Articles from this publication may be reprinted in any ham radio publication, if credit is given to this publication and the author, if known.

All submissions should be emailed to: Toby Kolman, WT8O at wt8o@att.net

2024 CARS Committees, Officers, Board and Trustees

CARS 2024 Committees

50/50

Chair: Andy Evridge, KD8SCV

Audio/Video

Chair: Scott Smith, AC8NW

Awards

Co-Chairs: Bob Check, W8GC and Toby Kolman, WT8O

Fund Raising

Chair: Bob Check, W8GC
Members: Ron Hollas, K8RJH, Matt Perlman, KE8OZU and Gary Schmid, WA8GCR

ARRL Liaison

Chair: Ron Hollas, K8RJH

Audit

Chair: Ron Hollas, K8RJH
Members: Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS and Toby Kolman, WT8O

Field Day

Co-Chairs: Bob Robbins, K8RGI and Toby Kolman, WT8O
Members: Scott Smith, AC8NW, David Korow, AC8TN, Arp Viiberg, K8ARP, Ron Hollas, K8RJH, Andy Evridge, KD8SCV and Mark Moro, WJ8WM

Hamvention Bus

Chair: Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS
Member: Toby Kolman, WT8O

Historian

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O

License Classes

Chair: David Noeth, KD8ACO

Members: Joel Chaney, K8SHB and Toby Kolman, WT8O

Membership

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O

Member: Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

Newsletter

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O

Property to Sell Custodian

Chair: Bob Check, W8GC

QSL Manager

Chair: Metro Sinko, W8MET

Records Custodian

Chair: Terry Pillatt, KB8DTC

Refreshments - Donuts

Chair: Matt Neely, NU8H

Scholarship

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O

Members: Bob Robbins, K8RGI, Ron Hollas, K8RJH, Matt Perlman, KE8OZU and Mark Moro, WJ8WM

Holiday Party, Summer Picnic

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O

Members: Arp Viiberg, K8ARP, Kim Balach Costa, KD8FTU, Diane Balach, KD8FTV and Mark Moro, WJ8WM

Media Representative

Chair: Andy Evridge, KD8SCV

Net

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O

Members: Scott Smith, AC8NW, David Korow, AC8TN, Ron Hollas, K8RJH and David Noeth, KD8ACO

Programs at Meetings

Chair: Joe Ulaszewski, KD8BAL

Members: Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS and Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

Public Service

Chair: Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS

Member: Arp Viiberg, K8ARP

Quartermaster

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O

Refreshments - Coffee

Chair: John Dernar, NU8Y

Refreshments - Pop

Chair: Ron Hollas, K8RJH

Sunshine (Welfare)

Chair: Andy Evridge, KD8SCV

Technical

Chair: Scott Smith, AC8NW

Members: Mark Scoville, AD8KE, Ron Hollas, K8RJH, Terry Pillatt, KB8DTC, Mark Rosewicz, KC8ESG, David Noeth, KD8ACO and Mark Moro, WJ8WM

VE Exams

Chair: Metro Sinko, W8MET

Webmaster/email

Chair: Bob Check, W8GC

Member: Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

2024 Officers

President

Toby Kolman, WT8O

[440-525-6109](tel:440-525-6109)

wt8o@att.net

Vice-President

Ron Hollas, K8RJH

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ron@hollas.co

Secretary

Matt Neely, NU8H

[216-965-4476](tel:216-965-4476)

matt@matthewneely.com

Alternate Secretary: Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

Treasurer

Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

[216-337-1540](tel:216-337-1540)

matt@seagem.me

CARS 2024 Executive Board

Board Chair

Mark Moro, WJ8WM

[216-496-2871](tel:216-496-2871)

Alternate: Arp Viiberg, K8ARP

Even Year Board Members

Scott Smith, AC8NW, John Derner, NU8Y
and Mark Moro, WJ8WM

Odd Year Board Members

Arp Viiberg, K8ARP, Bob Robbins, K8RGI
and Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS

CARS License Trustees

K8ZFR Trustee

Toby Kolman, WT8O

W8BM Trustee

Mark Moro, WJ8WM

W8HBI Trustee

Matt Perlman, KE8OZU